

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR
ZIRLOTT PARK TEMPORARY HOUSING SITE,
BAYOU La BATRE, MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for a proposed travel trailer site. The site would house disaster victims displaced by major home damage caused by Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005. A Presidential Disaster Declaration, FEMA-1605-DR-AL, was signed on August 29, 2005, for this event.

The proposed action includes developing an approximately 12-acre site (termed "Zirlott Park site") for 102 travel trailer units to be located adjacent to, and south of, Padgett Switch Road in Bayou La Batre, Mobile County, Alabama. The park site is designed to accommodate up to 350 travel trailers if necessary to provide temporary housing for hurricane victims. Activities would include, where necessary, site clearing, grading, road construction, the placement of utilities (electricity, telephones, water, and sewer), and the transport and hook-up of travel trailers to the site. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a Draft EA was written to evaluate the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. In order to meet the urgent need of hurricane victims to find temporary housing, FEMA has conducted an expedited environmental review process to identify and address environmental issues. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, site selection process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action.

Due to the emergency nature of this action, the public comment period will be brief – September 28 to September 29, 2005. Written comments on the Draft EA can be faxed to FEMA's Joint Field Office in Montgomery at (334) 409-4692; and verbal comments will be accepted at (334) 260-3569 between 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. The Draft EA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/ehp/docs.shtm> and is also available for public review at the Bayou La Batre City Hall, located at 13785 South Wintzell Avenue, Bayou La Batre, Alabama 36509; the Bayou La Batre Community Center located at 12755 Padgett Switch Road; and the U.S. Post Office located at 7970 Highway 188, Coden, Alabama 36523. The hours for City Hall are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM; the hours for the U.S. Post Office are Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM and Saturday from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice.

All other questions regarding disaster assistance or the availability of emergency housing should be directed to FEMA's Teleregistration line at 800-621-3362.